IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, ANDHRA PRADESH
AT HYDERABAD

(Special Original Jurisdiction)

TUESDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF AUGUST
TWO THOUSAND AND FOUR

PRESENT

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE V.V.S.RAO

WRIT PETITION NO : 23015 of 1999

Between:

P. Nagaraju, S/o.Ranganna,

Mudinenivandlapalli, Narayanreddypally Gram Panchayat

Rayachoty, Cuddapah District.

..... PETITIONER

AND

1. The District Collector, Cuddapah District,

Cuddapah.

2. The Project Director, Drought Prone Area Programme,

Cuddapah, Cuddapah District.

3. R.H.G.B.M.S.N., Cuddapah Road, Masapeta, Rayachoty,

Cuddapah District, rep. by its Secretary,

.....RESPONDENTS

Petition under Article 226 of the constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the Affidavit filed herein the High Court will be pleased to issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ or Order or direction declaring the proposed action of respondents in holding the Gram Sabha once again for the Watershed I, Narayanareddypally Gram Panchayat, Cuddapah District, as arbitrary, illegal, and unjust and issue a consequential direction directing the respondents to declare the nominations as was nominated in the Grama Sabha held on 21.3.1999 conducted at Mudineni vandlapalli, Hamlet of Narayanareddypally Gram Panchayat, Rayachoty, Cuddapah District, including that of petitioner.

Counsel for the Petitioner:MR.B.VISWANATHA REDDY

Counsel for the Respondents: GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEV.

The Court made the following :

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE V.V.S.RAO

WRIT PETITION NO.23015 OF 1999

ORDER:

The petitioner is a resident of Mudinenivandlapalli Village, Narayanreddypally Gram Panchayat, Rayachoty, Cuddapah District. As per Water Shed Management Scheme, Gram Sabha was convened on 21.3.1999 to elect Watershed Committee consisting of Chairman and nine Members. The petitioner was one of the nominees, who allegedly has majority of 243 Members/Constituents of the Gram Panchayat. The meeting held on 21.3.1999 was, however, postponed due to factional disputes and thereafter, the respondents proposed to hold another Gram Sabha for electing Chairman and Members of Watershed Committee on 21.10.1999. Assailing the same, petitioner approached this Court seeking a declaration that the action of the respondents in holding the Gram Sabha once again for Watershed Committee of Narayanreddypally Gram Panchayat is illegal and arbitrary, and for a consequential direction to respondents to declare the result of the election held in the Gram Sabha on 21.3.1999. This Court while admitting the Writ Petitions stayed the meeting of the Gram Sabha.

At the time of hearing, it is brought to my notice that the Watershed Committee of Narayanreddypally was merged with Watershed Committee of Gunnikuntla Gram Panchayat in the same Mandal and that the Watershed Committee is elected for a period of four years. Even if the petitioner had been successfully elected in the meeting held on 21.3.1999, the term of the petitioner would have come to an end by March, 2003. As the Watershed Committee of Narayanreddypally Gram Panchayat

has been merged with Gunnikuntla, the petitioner's apprehension that another Gram Sabha might be held for electing new Watershed Committee may be misplaced. The Writ Petition has become infructuous and no relief can be granted at this stage.

The Writ Petition, for the above reasons, is accordingly dismissed.

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(V.V.S.RAO, J)

17.8.2004

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To

1. The District Collector, Cuddapah District,

Cuddapah.

2. The Project Director, Drought Prone Area Programme,

Cuddapah, Cuddapah District.

3. 2 CCs to the GP for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development,

High Court Buildings., Hyderabad (OUT).

4. 2 CD copies.